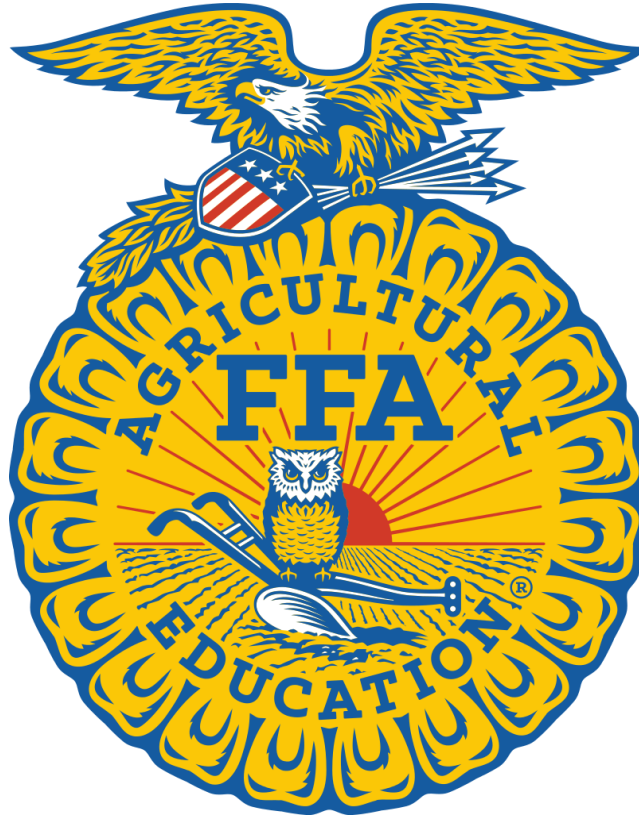


The FFA Parent Survival Guide



What every parent needs to know to help their FFA member succeed!

Parents,

The FFA Organization has a lot to offer youth. Adults need to know what is available so that they can help youth take advantage of all the opportunities FFA has to offer. This short guide is designed to present some of the programs available. Hopefully this pamphlet can answer a few questions, and maybe stimulate some conversations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or contact us at anytime.

Respectfully,

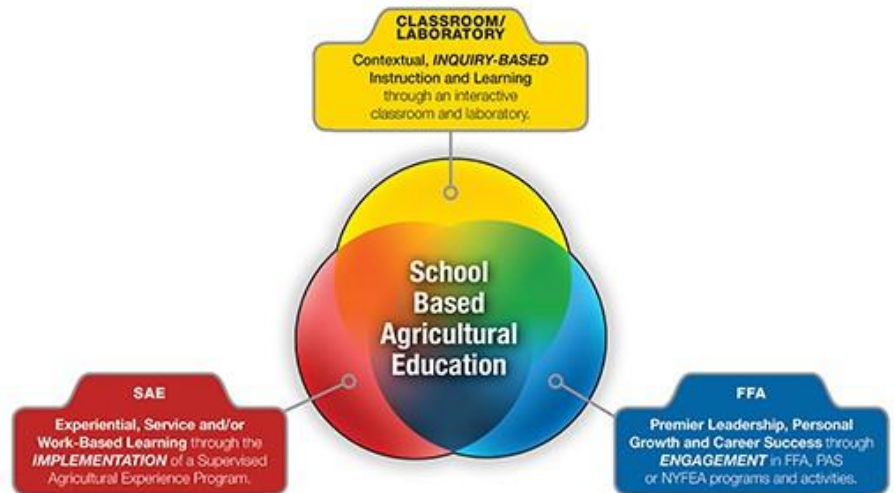
Mrs. Meghan Miller, Lost River FFA Advisor

What is FFA?

FFA is a dynamic youth organization within agricultural education that prepares students for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success. FFA was created in 1928 as the Future Farmers of America; however, that name was changed to the National FFA Organization in 1988 to reflect the growing diversity of agriculture. Today, more than 500,000 student members are engaged in a wide range of agricultural education activities, leading over 300 career opportunities in the agricultural science, food, fiber and natural resources industry. Student success still remains the primary mission of the FFA.

FFA and Agricultural Education

FFA members are part of a total agricultural education program that connects students to exciting careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. FFA is only one of the three essential components of the program, all of which work together to provide members with leadership, academic and career experiences essential for success.



A Brief History of the FFA

Founded in 1928, the Future Farmers of America brought together students, teachers and agribusiness to solidify support for agricultural education. In Kansas City's Baltimore Hotel, 33 young farm boys charted a course for the future. They could not have foreseen how the organization would grow and thrive.

Since 1928, millions of agriculture students - no one knows exactly how many - have donned the official FFA jacket and championed the FFA creed. FFA has opened its doors and its arms to minorities and women, ensuring that all students could reap the benefits of agricultural education.

Today, the National FFA Organization remains committed to the individual student, providing a path to achievement in **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education. Now, the organization is expanding the nation's view of "traditional" agriculture and finding new ways to infuse agriculture into the classroom.

Program of Activities (POA)

The Program of Activities (POA) is the Lost River FFA Chapter calendar for the school year. These activities will include judging events, county and state fair, meetings, field trips, and local, district, and state competitions and meetings. Ask your student or Agriculture Advisor if you are interested in going on some of the trips as a chaperone or driver. A copy of this calendar will be given to every student at the beginning of each year to help parents and students plan accordingly.

The FFA Creed

As FFA members, we have beliefs. And these beliefs are outlined in the FFA creed. In order to earn the Greenhand FFA Degree, the candidate must understand and be familiar with this five paragraph article. While this seems very difficult at a first glance, our advisor and agricultural teacher, helps to make this creed understandable. Also, in a contest, a junior high member or freshman can recite this at the local, District, Sectional, State, and National level.

The FFA Creed: By E.M. Tiffany

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds - achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so--for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

FFA Official Dress (OD)

As FFA members, we have the opportunity to impact many people who may or may not be familiar with the organization: Community residents, businessmen and women, FFA sponsors, guests, parents, etc. Therefore, first impressions are crucial, and that involves the way we dress. All FFA members are required to wear official dress while participating in official activities. FFA Official Dress includes:

- Black pants or skirt
 - Skirt is to be at least knee length, hemmed evenly across the bottom, with a slit no longer than 2 inches above the knee, excluding the kick pleat. Skirts are usually recommended in more of the professional events that we participate in.
 - Black slacks or jeans may be appropriate for traveling and outdoor activities.
- White collared dress shirt/blouse
- Official FFA blue scarf or tie
- Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe
 - Depending on the event boots may or may not be recommended
- Black nylon hosiery or socks
- Official FFA jacket zipped to the top

How to Wear Awards

- Chapter degree, officer and award medals should be worn beneath the name on the right side of the jacket.
- State FFA Degree or American Degree keys should be worn above the name on the right side of the jacket or attached to a standard key chain.
- No more than three medals should be worn on the jacket. These should represent highest degree earned, highest office held and the highest award earned.

The Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAE or SAEP)

SAE: Learning by Doing - A Supervised Agricultural Experience program (SAE) is a key component of agricultural education. While working on an SAE project, students learn to apply the concepts and principles taught in their agriculture classes to real-world problems and scenarios. A student selects an SAE project based on his or her interest in one of four areas:

- **Exploratory** - Learn about the big picture of agriculture and its many related careers.
- **Research/Experimentation and Analysis** - Conduct research and analyze information to discover new knowledge.
- **Ownership/Entrepreneurship** - Plan and operate an agriculture-related business.
- **Placement** - Work for a business or individual, either for pay or for the experience.

The Career or Leadership Development Events (CDE or LDE)

For students who ask their teachers "When will I ever use this in the real world?" Career Development Events (CDEs) and Leadership Development Events (LDEs) are the answer. Since 1928, FFA has worked to create CDEs that demonstrate the meaningful connections between classroom instruction and real-life scenarios CDEs build on what is learned in agricultural classes and the FFA.

The events are designed to help prepare students for careers in agriculture. Classroom instruction comes alive as students demonstrate their skills in a competitive setting. CDEs test the abilities of individuals and teams in 23 major areas of agricultural instruction. CDEs include Ag Communications, Creed, Extemporaneous Speaking, Job Interview, Parliamentary Procedure, Prepared Speaking, Forestry, Horse Evaluation, and Meats Evaluation. For a complete list, go to <https://oregonffa.com/cde-manual/>.

Career & Leadership Development Events that Lost River FFA members can participate in:

- Soils Judging
- Agricultural Sales
- Creed Speaking
- Prepared Public Speaking
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking
- Job Interview
- Co-Op Quiz
- FFA Information Test
- SAE Proficiencies
- Scrapbook
- Portfolios
- Secretary's Book
- Treasurer's Book
- Technology/Electronic Scrapbook
- Floriculture
- Nursery & Landscape
- Meats Evaluation
- Livestock Evaluation
- Agricultural Mechanics
- Crops Judging (Agronomy)
- Dairy Foods (Milk Quality Product

Leadership Opportunities

Officer positions at the chapter, district, state, and national levels:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Reporter
- Sentinel
- Historian
- Parliamentarian

*Must have completed at least one full year in the AST/FFA program in order to run for a chapter office.

**Officer elections are held in the spring prior to the Spring Awards Banquet.



Degrees and Awards

As a freshman, you have a wide window full of opportunities. You have a chance to go so far in anything that you want to do, and if you want, FFA will help you in almost every career field. Your levels of membership can be determined into degrees. The first one, the Greenhand degree takes very little to achieve, while, the American degree takes years to achieve.

Discovery FFA Degree

The Discovery degree is for junior high students who have completed an agriculture class, have participated in an FFA activity outside of the normal class, are familiar with the FFA opportunities and calendar of events, and have basic knowledge of agricultural careers and opportunities. The complete requirements are available online at <https://oregonffa.com/discovery/>

Greenhand FFA Degree

The Greenhand degree is for first year (freshmen typically) high school students. To earn the Greenhand degree members must have satisfactory plans for a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAEP) and demonstrate knowledge of the creed, code of ethics, motto, salute emblem, official dress, and important dates in FFA history. The Greenhand degree pin is made out of bronze for its strength and durability. The complete requirements are available online at <https://oregonffa.com/greenhand/>

Chapter FFA Degree

The Chapter degree is the highest award a local FFA chapter can bestow upon its members. To earn the Chapter degree, usually awarded in the second year of taking Agriscience courses, members must have a good SAEP, earned and invested \$150 or worked 45 unpaid hours outside of class, lead a group discussion for 15 minutes, demonstrate 5 parliamentary procedures, have a good scholastic record, and have earned the Greenhand degree. The Chapter degree pin is made out of silver. The complete requirements are available online at <https://oregonffa.com/chapter/>

State FFA Degree

The State degree is the highest award a state FFA association can bestow upon its members. It is awarded at the state convention. The State degree recipients earn a charm that can be worn on the

official jacket or on a gold chain.

Some of the requirements for the Oregon FFA State Degree are as follows:

Have received the Chapter FFA Degree, Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree, while in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a Supervised Agricultural Experience program (complete with records, earned and invested \$1,000 into an approved Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), and worked 500 hours, outside of class time, on an SAE (entrepreneurship), give a 6-minute presentation on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA and have a record of 25 hours of community service. The complete requirements are available online at <https://oregonffa.com/state/>

American FFA Degree

The American degree is the highest award that any FFA member can receive. Less than one percent of all FFA members receive this honor. In order to earn the degree, members must have their State degree, had at least three years of Agriscience classes and active FFA membership, have graduated High School 12 months before earning the degree, have an outstanding SAE, earned and invested \$10,000 and productively invested at least \$7,500 or have earned and productively invested at least \$2,000 and worked 2,250 unpaid hours outside of agricultural classes, have outstanding leadership skills, have a "C" or better High School scholastic average and have a record of 50 hours of community service. Recipients of this award receive a gold key and a plaque at the national convention. The complete requirements are available online at <https://oregonffa.com/american/>

Helpful Websites & Resources

- www.ffa.org
- www.oregonffa.com
- www.theaet.com – SAE Record Keeping Website
- The Official FFA Student Handbook – available in video format at <https://www.ffa.org/ffa-video-center/video-companion-resources-for-the-national-ffa-student-handbook/>
- The Official FFA Manual – available at <https://www.ffa.org/official-manual/>

Chapter Contact Information

Lost River FFA Chapter

23330 Highway 50

Merrill, Oregon 97633

School Phone: 541-798-5666

FFA Chapter Website: <http://www.kcsd.k12.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=1159>

Follow Lost River FFA on Facebook & Instagram!!!



Meghan Miller, Lost River AST Instructor & FFA Advisor

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